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2 November 1962

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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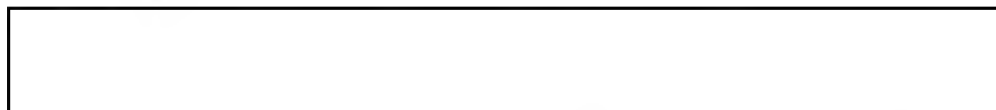


2. Cuba: Castro speech not effective. (Page i-a)



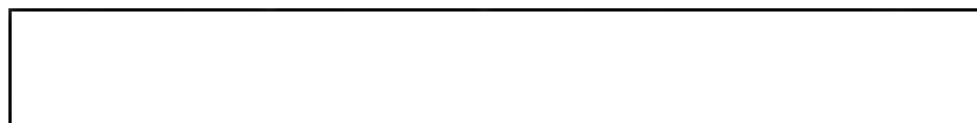
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*Cuba: Fidel Castro's 1 November speech was not an effective performance. He appeared nervous and hesitant during the major portion of his speech devoted to reading a transcript of his 30 and 31 October talks with U Thant. He seemed somewhat more confident and forceful during the concluding portion when he spoke in his customary extemporaneous manner.

He conceded that the decision to pull out the Soviet "strategic weapons" gave his government "some reason for discontent," but added that "we respected the decision since these weapons were not under our command." He stressed that the Soviet Union is still Cuba's friend and differences will be discussed "in the light of reason and principle" since "the important fact is that we are Marxist-Leninists."

He emphasized that Cuba is not being disarmed; all but the "strategic weapons" are to remain and "they are a powerful means of defense." He revealed for the first time that "some time ago" the Soviet Union had canceled Cuba's arms debts and has not charged for the "basic arms" sent to Cuba.

Castro reiterated his "five points," stressing particularly his demand for the evacuation of the US Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay.

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[redacted] [redacted] [redacted]
[redacted] report continuing evidence of a
decline in Soviet and Cuban prestige among Latin American Communist and other pro-Castro groups as a result of the events of the past week. [redacted]

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East Germany - USSR: The appearance in Moscow of the leaders of the two satellites most intimately concerned with economic and military assistance to Cuba suggests that Soviet leaders wish to reassess the bloc's policy toward Cuba and the consequences of this episode for the bloc.

East German party leader Ulbricht arrived in Moscow yesterday, one day after the departure of Czech President Novotny. Both were accompanied by top-level delegations which included economic and ideological figures.

Ulbricht probably also shares the concern of other East German officials that Soviet action in Cuba means a further postponement of his regime's major objective--a German peace treaty. Soviet representatives have generally been playing down the imminence of such a move.

Khrushchev, therefore, probably is reviewing with the East European leaders future policy considerations on specific East-West issues which he raised in his recent exchange with President Kennedy.

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Cambodia - South Vietnam: Recent border incidents between South Vietnam and Cambodia will reinforce Prince Sihanouk's determination to obtain international commitments to respect Cambodia's neutrality and territorial integrity.

Phnom Penh charges that two South Vietnamese aircraft strafed Cambodian villages in the northeast border region on 25 October, killing and wounding several persons. A communiqué on this incident noted that this was Cambodia's "second warning." This refers to Sihanouk's statement in September that he would tolerate only "two more" South Vietnamese "acts of aggression" before breaking off relations.

A potentially more serious incident occurred on 31 October when two Cambodian T-28s were intercepted by South Vietnamese planes, apparently over South Vietnamese territory. Warning shots were fired before the Cambodian planes turned back. This is the first encounter between aircraft of the two countries.

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 The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs
 The Scientific Adviser to the President
 The Director of the Budget
 The Director, Office of Emergency Planning
 The Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration
The Department of State
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 The Under Secretary of State
 The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs
 The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs
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